

Member Briefs



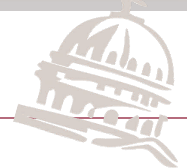
Oct. 28, 2013



THE ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS



LEGISLATIVE & POLICY CORNER



AMCHP Celebrates an MCH Landmark

Oct. 24, 2013 - Fifty years ago, President John F. Kennedy signed the [Maternal and Child Health \(MCH\) and Mental Retardation Planning Amendment to the Social Security Act](#), the first major legislation to combat mental illness and retardation. This law amended Title V of the *Social Security Act* “to assist states and communities in preventing and combating mental retardation through expansion and improvement of maternal and child health and crippled children’s programs; through provision of prenatal, maternity, and infant care for individuals with conditions associated with childbearing which may lead to mental retardation; and through planning for comprehensive action to combat mental retardation.”

One week later, Kennedy signed his last bill into law to provide funding for the construction of facilities related to the prevention, care, and treatment of people with intellectual disabilities, including research centers to study the causes of intellectual disabilities, university-related diagnostic treatment clinics, and community-based centers for the care of people with intellectual disabilities. Visit [here](#) to learn more about both of these efforts.

Notably, the 1963 MCH amendments doubled the appropriation for Title V services over five years. It also set the stage for efforts to provide and promote family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children and youth with special health care needs and to facilitate the development of community-based systems of services. While the science and language that guides our efforts has evolved and improved, the concepts endorsed 50 years ago continue to be a central focus of state Title V programs today.

Upon signing the law, President Kennedy said, “Enactment of this legislation is...an important landmark in our drive to eliminate one of the major health hazards affecting mankind. We can say with some assurance that, although children may be the victims of fate, they will not be the victims of our neglect.” On a separate occasion marking an anniversary of the *Social Security Act*, President Kennedy said, “We celebrate the past, to awaken the future.” In that spirit, the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs celebrates this notable anniversary, thanking each of you for your commitment to improving maternal and child health, and recommitting to the pledge made a half century ago that America’s children “will not be the victims of our neglect.”



President Kennedy signing MCH legislation, Oct. 24, 1963. Photos courtesy of the John F. Kennedy Library.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER CONT.

Federal Budget Update

On Oct. 16, President Obama signed legislation to reopen the federal government and provide continued funding at FY 2013 post sequestration levels through Jan. 15, 2014. This legislation also suspends enforcement of the federal debt limit until Feb. 7, 2014.

The deal also set in motion a congressional budget conference committee comprised of House and Senate negotiators. They are charged with crafting a wider budget agreement to include a framework for final FY 2014 program levels by Dec. 13, 2013. AMCHP staff are now working with MCH and public health coalitions to ask members of this committee to replace sequestration with a balanced approach to deficit reduction and recognize that programs like the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant have already contributed nearly \$125 million deficit-reducing cuts over the past decade. The period between now and Dec. 13 offers a critical opportunity for us to spread this message.

In order for AMCHP to best represent you and the MCH populations you serve, we need additional information on how current budget cuts are impacting the services you provide. Please take a moment to complete this brief [survey](#). Finally, for those who are able we urge you to begin planning now to attend the AMCHP Annual Conference in Jan. and schedule visits with your Congressional representatives to educate them on the value of MCH investments in your state. Additional information on available training and materials to support these efforts will be shared soon.

Health Reform Implementation

As you have probably noticed, the website that serves as the portal to the federally facilitated marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](#) is off to a bumpy start. Despite the website's woes, there are still avenues through which consumers can apply for health coverage in the states where the federal government is operating the marketplace. In an email on Oct. 21, Secretary Sebelius provided four ways for consumers to apply in addition to the website:

- **Apply online:** Visit [HealthCare.gov](#) to get started.
- **Apply by phone:** Call 1-800-318-2596 to apply for a health insurance plan and enroll over the phone (TTY: 1-855-889-4325)
- **Apply in person:** Visit a trained counselor in your community to get information and apply in person,

find help in your area at [LocalHelp.HealthCare.gov](#)

- **Apply by mail:** Complete a paper application and mail it in; you can download the paper [application form](#) and [instructions](#) from HealthCare.gov

The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) also provided this useful [infographic](#) on solutions/problems and other resources.

GET INVOLVED



Improving Reproductive Health of Women and Families: Coordinating Title V and Title X Programs

MCH programs use Title V and Title X funds to improve the health of the MCH population and enable broad access to family planning and preventive health resources and services; however, the relationship and collaborations between these programs varies from state to state. On **Nov. 13, 2-3 p.m. EST**, AMCHP will host a webinar on lessons learned for establishing partnerships and coordinating efforts among state Title V and Title X programs. Participants will hear from AMCHP staff Andria Cornell, Program Manager in Women's and Infant Health, who will describe a recent case study of experiences in ensuring successful collaboration. This discussion will be followed by examples from Iowa and Virginia on what led these states to successful coordination, how they measure their success, and how they foresee the ACA impacting Title V and Title X in their state. Click [here](#) to register.

AMCHP Grant Opportunity to be Announced

Through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), AMCHP will facilitate a competitive award process for up to 7 states to receive up to \$20,000 over two years to state teams, led by either the Title V program or a member of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) network, to support the collaboration of Act Early Regional Summit Project teams and to further activities initiated by state teams during the Summits. These funds are designed to be a catalyst for collaboration with stakeholders, as well as for implementing specific activities outlined in Act Early State Plans. AMCHP will provide ongoing technical assistance, disseminate

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resource materials and link grantees to other states and experts in autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

The funding announcement is anticipated for the end of October and will be posted on the AMCHP and AUCD Websites and will be distributed through relevant listservs. For more information, please contact [Michelle Jarvis](#) or [Alma Reyes](#).

Improving Reproductive Health of Women and Families: Integrating Title V and Title X Programs

Title V and Title X serve the same population, however, the collaboration of these programs varies from state to state. On **Nov. 13, 2-3 p.m. EST**, AMCHP will host a webinar on lessons learned for integrating state Title V and Title X programs. Participants will hear from AMCHP staff Andria Cornell, Program Manager of Women & Infant Health, who will provide an overview of what states are doing to ensure a successful collaboration. This discussion will be followed by two state examples from Iowa and Virginia, sharing what led them to a successful integration, how they measure their success and how they foresee the Affordable Care Act impacting Title V and Title X. [Click here](#) to register.

Measuring a Life Course Approach to MCH: The AMCHP Life Course Metrics Project and Final Set of Indicators

This month, AMCHP released a final set of life course indicators as the culminating product of a year-long effort to identify and promote standardized indicators to measure progress using the life course approach to improve MCH. Guided by a national expert panel, the selection of the final set took place through a collaborative process with seven state teams: Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska and North Carolina. Join AMCHP Nov. 19 from 2-3 p.m. EST for a webinar that will provide an overview of the Life Course Metrics Project and its process, sharing key decision points and methods for engaging the MCH community. Representatives from state MCH programs, including MCH epidemiology, will share their perspectives on participating in the project, the challenges and lessons they learned and how the life course indicators will influence their work and future efforts. The webinar will conclude with a discussion with the national expert panel members on the implications of the life course indicators for the field of MCH and

beyond. Join us and share your questions, reactions and experiences in measuring a life course approach to MCH. To register, [click here](#).

The final set of life course indicators and supporting resources are available online at amchp.org/lifecourseindicators.

Are You “Branding” Your Title V-Funded Programs, Services, Events and Resources?

As a Title V professional you understand that Title V programs have a large reach supporting women, children, children and youth with special health care needs, and families. Do others, such as the general public, program consumers or even state legislatures, have this same understanding? Increasing the brand awareness of Title V-funded events, programs and resources can make it easier for state legislatures, the general public and the population Title V programs serve to understand Title V reach. AMCHP is interested in gaining a better understanding of if/how state Title V programs are branding Title V-funded programs, services, events and resources. Please [click here](#) and take a few minutes to share your thoughts.

AMCHP Best Practices Technical Assistance Project: Request for Applications DEADLINE EXTENDED

As part of an overall strategic goal to improve maternal and child health (MCH) outcomes by sharing effective and promising practices with state and territorial MCH programs, AMCHP is please to provide a second round

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of replication stipends to foster connections between states interested in replication or adaptation of a current emerging, promising or best practice in Innovation Station. Through this project, applicants can request technical assistance support (i.e., travel funds or other seed resources) to learn how to adapt a specific *Innovation Station* practice (or elements of a practice) to their state or community. Applicants will need to demonstrate readiness to adapt the practice in order to maximize technical assistance resources. **Applications will be accepted through Oct. 31.** To access the RFA, [click here](#). To apply, [click here](#).

[Click here](#) to read how previous award recipients from Iowa and Montana used funds to adapt the Florida CMS-CSHCN Youth and Young Adult Transition materials and to replicate the Rhode Island Pediatric Practice Enhancement Project.

November is Prematurity Awareness Month

AMCHP is pleased to be a member of the March of Dimes Prematurity Awareness Campaign Steering committee and partner in their efforts to raise awareness about prematurity. The awareness month kicks off on Nov. 1 with the release of the March of Dimes (MoD) Premature Birth Report Card. Nov. 17 marks World Prematurity Day, and MoD and its partner organizations worldwide are asking everyone to help spread the word on the serious problem of premature birth. This year, they created an online media kit that you can use to support prematurity awareness in your publications, e-mails, websites and other communications. To access the kit housed on the World Prematurity Day Facebook page, [click here](#).



Toll-Free Hotline Survey for State Title V Program Staff

Federal Title V legislation requires that state maternal and child health agencies establish and maintain a toll-free hotline for families with information about programs and providers. Because of declining call volumes to the existing line and because of multiple other existing lines with similar purpose/function, Tennessee is in the process of evaluating its toll-free Title V line and asked AMCHP to facilitate a process to gather feedback from other states about their lines. This very brief survey asks about the services offered through the line, who staffs the line, whether call volume is changing, and what alternatives, if any, are states using to meet this requirement. If you have any questions, please contact AMCHP staff [Caroline Stampfel](#). To connect to the survey, [click here](#).



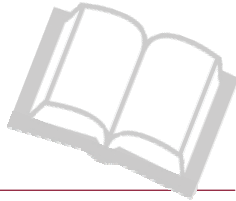
AMCHP continues to seek submissions of emerging, promising and best practices in MCH from all states and territories. During October, we are seeking effective practices and programs addressing development and training for the MCH workforce.

You'll have a chance to:

- Share successes with your peers
- Enhance the MCH field
- Contribute to program replication
- Get expert feedback from the Review Panel
- Receive national recognition

The online submission process is simple and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, contact [Kate Taft](#) at (202) 266-3056 or visit amchp.org/bestpractices.

You can also [click here](#) to refer an innovative MCH program that we should know about!



Child & Adolescent Health

CSN on Halloween Safety

The Children's Safety Network (CSN) has released a new blog post titled, *Pedestrian Injuries: The True Terror of Halloween*. The resource provides facts and statistics on child pedestrian accidents on Halloween, when the most dangerous hours are for children to cross the street and provides a multitude of additional resources on how to keep children safe this year. For more information and to access the full blog post, [click here](#). Visit the CSN Halloween Safety Pinterest board [here](#).

Women's & Infant Health

State Newborn Screening and Birth Defects Program Roles in Screening for CCHD

AMCHP released a new issue brief entitled *State Newborn Screening and Birth Defects Program Roles in Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defects (CCHD)*. This issue brief highlights effective practices and policies for states, specifically roles for state newborn screening and birth defects programs, to consider when designing and implementing comprehensive CCHD screening programs. The brief builds off of recommendations from a February 2013 meeting, hosted by AMCHP with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which brought together state newborn screening and birth defects program representatives to dialogue about key components for successful collaboration in critical congenital heart disease screening and program implementation. Case studies from Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey and Utah are also highlighted. To download the issue brief, [click here](#).

New NICHD Safe to Sleep® Online Resource

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) is pleased to announce the launch of a new Safe to Sleep® website. The website provides tools to help users test their knowledge of safe sleeping environments, ideas for tummy time, facts on sudden infant death syndrome and information on how the Safe to Sleep® is addressing high-risk communities. For more information and to access this resource, [click here](#).

AMCHP Accepting CEO Applications

AMCHP is seeking a dynamic chief executive officer (CEO) to build on and preserve our mission of being a national resource, partner, and advocate for state public health leaders and others working to improve the health of women, children, youth, and families, including those with special health care needs. Reporting to the board of directors, the CEO provides direction and leadership for organization mission and vision, represents and speaks for the organization and its work, and manages the day to day operations. Specific responsibilities of the CEO include effectively representing and promoting the organization as the national voice for state and territorial maternal and child health programs; successfully managing day-to-day operations, including staff, programs, procedures, and technological resources; overseeing the organization's fiscal operations and fund raising strategies and plans; supporting the board in its governance role; and developing and maintaining relationships and partnerships with stakeholders, policymakers, organizations, and the public, among others. To learn more about the position and how to apply, [click here](#).

UCSF Institute for Health and Aging Now Accepting Applications for Research Analyst

Under the direction of the Epidemiology, Assessment and Program Development (EAPD) branch of the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), this position contributes to the evaluation and analysis of MCAH programs and MCAH-related issues of interest to the State of California. The results of this work will be disseminated through presentations to key stakeholders and the publication of reports and articles. Data available for research include information on over 500,000 births annually, hospital inpatient discharges data linked to mothers, mortality data linked to newborns and mothers, quality of care data from maternity hospitals, and data from MCAH programs. Current areas of special maternal and child health interest in California include birth outcomes, morbidity & mortality, health disparities, and adolescent health. For more information on the position and job requirements, [click here](#). For questions and to apply, contact [Edwina Newsom](#).

AMCHP Staff Working on Your Behalf

- On Oct. 8, AMCHP staff Carolyn McCoy presented on a panel at the National Conference of State Legislatures Fiscal Analysts Seminar in Annapolis, Maryland. The topic of the presentation was “Healthy Babies, Healthy Budgets.” Carolyn provided an overview of the importance of preconception health, interconception health and breastfeeding in keeping women and mothers healthy, along with state budgets’ bottom lines and where there might be continued gaps in coverage in a health reform era.
- On Oct. 17-19, AMCHP staff Sharron Corle, Lacy Fehrenbach and Kate Taft participated in the *Identifying State Health Priorities to Ensure Healthy Families: Using Limited Dollars Wisely* meeting in Washington, DC. The Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) funded project is led by the National Conference of State Legislatures and brings state and local MCH leaders together with elected official, and professional staff of state legislative bodies. The goal of the meeting was for each state team to develop a set of health priorities and work collaboratively to develop a plan to meet those priorities. States included in the meeting were Arkansas, District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and West Virginia. AMCHP delegates and members participating in the meeting included Patricia Scott (AR), Mary Frances Kornak (DC), Ilise Marrazzo (MD), Rachel de Long (NY), Manuel Vargas Bernal (PR), Arlene Smith-Lockridge (VI) and Christina Mullins (WV).
- On Oct. 22-23, AMCHP staff Tegan Callahan and Piia Hanson attended the Children’s Outcomes Project (COP): Phase II meeting in Washington, DC. The goals of the project are to create and sustain the COP learning community, advance innovative policies and practices at the community and state levels and work collaboratively to inform federal policy. Meeting participants included various national partners and COP team members from Alameda County, CA, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Montgomery County, MD, and Orange County, CA.



Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation Seeks Applications for Mental Health Research

Deadline: Nov. 1

Grants of up to \$20,000 will be awarded to support research of interventions designed to prevent or improve major social, psychological, behavioral, or public health problems affecting children, adults, couples, families or communities. For more information, [click here](#).

R40 Maternal and Child Health Research Program (MCHR) Grant

Deadline: Nov. 8

This grant supports innovative applied and translational research that have the potential to improve health care services and delivery and to promote health and well-being among MCH populations. Research proposals should address critical MCH questions such as public health systems and infrastructure, health disparities, quality of care, and promoting the health of MCH populations, which also support the goals of the Health Resources and Services Administration. For more information, [click here](#).

Social and Behavioral Interventions to Increase Solid Organ Donation Grant

Deadline: Nov. 20

The purpose of this grant is to reduce the gap between the demand for organ transplants and the supply of organs from deceased donors by identifying successful strategies that can serve as model interventions to increase deceased organ donation registration or family consent. For more information on grant HRSA-14-014 and more, [click here](#).

AMCHP CAREER CENTER

The Career Center is the premiere online job board for individuals seeking employment in Maternal and Child Health programs. Whether you are looking for an entry-level position or are a more seasoned professional looking for new opportunities, AMCHP’s Career Center has great openings for great people! Searching our database is free and open to all job-seekers. AMCHP members receive a discount on job-postings - so [sign up](#) today!

FUNDING CONT.

Ryan White Part B HIV Care Grant Program

Deadline: *Nov. 21*

The purpose of this grant is to assist states and territories in developing and/or enhancing access to a comprehensive continuum of high quality HIV care and treatment for low-income people living with HIV. For more information, [click here](#).

Rural Health Network Development (RHND) Program Grant

Deadline: *Nov. 22*

The RHND Program supports established health oriented networks with a history of collaboration to develop and maintain collaborative relationships to integrate systems of care administratively, clinically and financially. This grant supports rural integrated health care networks that have combined the functions of the entities participating in the network. For more information, [click here](#).

USDA Center for Collaborative Research on WIC Nutrition Education Innovations Grant

Deadline: *Letters of Intent Due Dec. 18*

The USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine (CNRC WIC Center) announces the second round of funding available for researcher-initiated projects to demonstrate creative approaches to nutrition education for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). University-based researchers, with state/local WIC collaborators, are eligible to respond. For more information, [click here](#).

WT Grant Foundation

Deadline: *Letters of Inquiry due Jan. 8, 2014*

The foundation is now accepting letters of inquiry from research projects on youth settings, youth development, youth policy and practices and evidence-based improvements. Investigator initiated grants usually range from \$100,000 to \$600,000 for two- to three-year projects. For more information, [click here](#).

Knight News Challenge

Deadline: *Jan. 15, 2014*

This \$100,000 prize is part of the Knight Foundation's latest *News Challenge*, which seeks innovative ideas to harness information and data for the health of communities. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) award is for those entrants who combine public health data with data from health care to improve the health of communities. For more information, [click here](#).

RWJF Executive Nurses Fellows

Deadline: *Jan. 15, 2014 at 3 p.m. EST*

RWJF Executive Nurse Fellows program is a three-year advanced leadership program for nurses who aspire to lead and shape health care locally and nationally. Fellows strengthen and improve their leadership abilities related to improving health and health care. Awards are open to registered nurses who hold senior leadership positions in health services, scientific and academic organizations, public health and community-based organizations or systems, or national professional, governmental and policy organizations. For more information, [click here](#).

CMS Cooperative Agreement to Support Establishment of Health Insurance Exchanges

Deadline: *Oct. 15, 2014*

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FUNDING CONT.

CMS Cooperative Agreement to Support Establishment of Health Insurance Exchanges

Deadline: *Oct. 15, 2014*

Through this cooperative agreement, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will provide states, the District of Columbia, and consortia of states, with financial assistance for the establishment of exchanges. These awards will provide funds for the state to complete activities for achieving approval in accordance with Section 1321 of the Affordable Care Act and the requirements as established through the rulemaking process. For more information on grant IE-HBE-12-001 and more, [click here](#).

NIH Initiative to Maximize Research Education in Genomics Diversity Action Plan

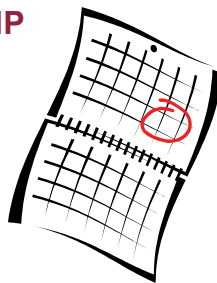
Deadline: *Sept. 6, 2016*

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) presents this funding opportunity to facilitate the training of individuals at all careers levels (the undergraduate, graduate, post baccalaureate, postdoctoral and faculty levels) from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in scientific disciplines relevant to genomics to enable them to pursue genomics research that spans all areas of interest to National Human Genome Research Institute later in their careers. For more information, [click here](#).

List Your Event on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar

Do you want to include your listing on the AMCHP MCH Events Calendar? It's easy!

Just complete our easy [online submission form](#). You are welcome to submit MCH conferences, webinars, trainings, webcasts and meetings. Thanks for helping us to build our MCH Events Calendar! If you have any questions, please contact [Julio Arguello Jr.](#), Online Media & Information Technology Manager. Please note: All event listings are subject to AMCHP approval.



CALENDAR



AMCHP Events

[AMCHP 2014](#) – [Register today!](#)

Jan. 25-28, 2014
Washington, DC

MCH Events

[APHA Scientific Writing for Peer Reviewed Publications for Public Health Professionals Course](#)

Nov. 2
Boston, MA

[2013 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#)

Nov. 2-6
Boston, MA

[National Healthcare Coalitions Conference](#)

Dec. 11-13
New Orleans, LA

[National Summit on Quality Home Visiting](#)

Jan. 29-30, 2014
Washington, DC

[15TH Annual NHSA Spring Conference](#)

Mar. 29-31, 2014
Washington, DC

[2014 Preparedness Summit](#)

Apr. 1-4, 2014
Atlanta, GA

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